

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 OMB-01

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /143 W

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R 222105Z JAN 74

FM AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

TO AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 5981

AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

AMEMBASSY KINGSTON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L PORT OF SP*IN 0189

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: GJ, TD, PFOR, PINT, ELAB

SUBJECT: CCL WILL NOT BOYCOTT GRENADA

REF: POS 0174

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH EMBOFF, CCL PRESIDEN CRICHLLOW MADE THE FOLLOWING RATIONALE FOR CCL DECISION NOT TO SUPPORT ANTI-GAIRY DEMONSTRATORS UNLESS ASKED BY GRENADA TUC (REFTEL):

2. TUC, DOMINATED BY PRO-GAIRY LABOR EADERS,*IS UNLIKELY TO REQUEST SUPPORT FOR THE STRIKE ACTION NOW SHAKING GRENADA. NEW JEWEL MOVEMENT (NJM) IS ORGANIZATION OF MIDDLE CLASS NTELLECTUALS WHO V*EW PM GAIR* AS REPUGNANT LOW*R CLASS LABOR LEADER WHOM THEY DO NOT ANT AS PRIME MINIS R OF INDEPENDENT GRENADA.*THERE IS LITTLE O* OSITION *O INDEPEND NCE BUT MUCH PERSONAL AND POLITICAL OPPOSITION TO GAIRY. WHEN GAIRY RECEIV** HIS OV RWHELMING *NDATE I* THE 1; 2 ELECTIO S, NJM MEMBERS DECIDED TO OPPOSE HIM AT ALL COSTS AND BEGAN TO ARM THEMSELVES. COMMITTEE OF 22 IS CLEARLY DOMINATED BY NJM MEMBERS WHO SET UP THE COMMITTEE TO PROVIDE A
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RESPECTABLE UNITED FRONT FOR THEIR ILLEGAL ANTI-GAIRY ACTIVITIES.

ERIC PIERRE, SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE SWWU AND PRESIDENT OF THE TAWU, THE TWO UNIONS ON STRIKE, WAS A FOUNDER OF THE ANTI-GAIRY POLITICAL OPPOSITION. PIERRE IS SUSPECTED OF BEING UNDER CONTROL AND FINANCED BY A WELL-KNOWN GRENADIAN ANTI-GAIRY MILLIONAIRE AND ARMS DEALER NOW IN SELF-IMP*SED EXILE IN MIAMI. TRINIDAD UNIONISTS ALSO RECOLLECT A CONVERSATION WITH PIERRE BEFORE THE DISTURBANCES IN WHICH HE THREATEN*D TO GET GAIRY EVEN IF HE HAD TO KILL HIM.

3. GAIRY0HAS COMMITTED SERIOUS EXCESSES BUT ONLY AFTER THE NJM HAD BEGUN PLANNING TO OVERTHROW THE GOVERNMENT BY VIOLENCE. DURING THE PRESENT TROUBLES GAIRY HAS HELD HIS FORCES BACK IN AN ATTEMPT TO MINIMIZE THE TURBULENCE. HOWEVER, GAIRY WILL NOT RESIGN AND WILL USE ALL FORCE NECESSARY TO STOP THE DISTURBANCES. (THE EVENTS OF JANUARY 21 INDICATE THAT FAIRY IS NOW USING FORCE TO QUELL RIOTING.)

4. IN VIEW OF ESSENTIALLY INTERNAL POLITICAL NATURE OF CONFLICT AND LACK OF EVIDENCE THAT GAIRY HAS ANTI-UNION OR ANTI-WORKING CLASS BIAS, CRICHLOW FELT CCL DID NOT HAVE CASE TO CALL ON CCL-AFFILIATED UNIONS TO SHOW SOLIDARITY WITH DEMONSTRATORS.

5. CCL REFUSAL TO CALL BOYCOTT WILL NOT AFFECT NON-DELIVERY OF PETROLEUM BY NON-AFFILIATED TRINIDAD OWTU OR EMBARGO OR CARGO TO GRENADA BY TRINIDAD SWWTU WHICH IS IN RESPONSE TO APPEAL BY SISTER SEAMN'S UNION IN GRENADA.

6. COMENT: CRICHLO'S VIEWS SEEM TO BE REPRESENTATIVE OF MODERATE TRADE UNIONISTS IN TRINIDAD WHO ARE WELL-ACQUAINTED WITH GAIRY AND OTHER GRENADIAN LABOR LEADERS AND ALSO REFLECT BELIEF THAT GAIRY WILL MANAGE TO MAINTAIN CONTROL AND THAT OTHER UNION LEADERS IN THE CARIBBEAN WOULD NOT OPPOSE HIM.
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